

# Millennial Star



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## **Samson Killeth a Lion**

*His parents were instructed in a divine Code of Health.*

(See pages 119, 120, 122)

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# THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

# MILLENNIAL STAR

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*"Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."*—Ecclesiastes 12: 13

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## THIS WEEK'S COVER—

From a well known painting comes this picture of Samson and the lion, a story of Bible fame. While journeying to Tim-nath, the city of the Philistines, Samson was attacked by a lion. As though it were a lamb, he rent its limbs apart, later to find its carcass full of honey. Such strength had been promised him by God so long as he obeyed his word.

Before the birth of Samson, an Angel appeared unto his mother announcing that she should bear a son who would deliver Israel from the Philistines. He further instructed her in laws of health, very similar to the present day Word of Wis-dom of the Latter-day Saints, that her son might be strong and powerful. He said unto her: "Beware, I pray thee, and drink no wine nor strong drink, and eat not any unclean thing." (Judges 13: 4) Again he repeated this exhortation. (Judges 13: 7) And yet on another occasion the Angel similarly instructed Manoah, the father of Samson. (Judges 13: 14)

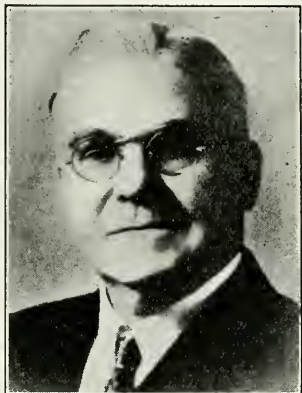
## THE PRICE OF CONTENTMENT

By ELDER CHARLES A. CALLIS

*Of the Council of the Twelve Apostles*

**R**EAD this glorious truth—It is found in the Book of Mormon:

For it behooveth the great Creator that he suffereth himself to become subject unto man in the flesh, and die for all men, that all men might become subject unto him.—2 Nephi 9: 5



Charles A. Callis

An Irish boy who emigrated to America and travelled on the boat third class "because there was no fourth class," Elder Charles A. Callis now sits as a member of the Council of the Twelve Apostles. He was called to the Council in 1933 after presiding over the Southern States Mission for more than a quarter of a century. Prior to that he had fulfilled a mission to Great Britain in 1893-95.

Consecrated service is the road to the hearts of men. The mother becomes subject to her family, so to speak, by sacred service and sacrifice, and therefore her high position as queen of the house is eternally assured.

The sublime truth which I have cited from the Book of Mormon foreshadows the condescension of God Almighty. Because of the Fall men were cut off from the presence of the Lord. Only an infinite atonement could save mankind from spiritual death and bring about the power of the resurrection to fallen men and make them incorruptible, immortal, living souls.

To secure this priceless boon the Creator suffered "the pains of every living creature, both men, women, and children, who belong to the family of Adam." Mankind was delivered by the power of the Holy One of Israel by His atonement. We belong to Him: we are not our own. He bought us with the price of His precious blood.

The Saviour said: "My Father worketh hitherto and I work." I believe that work is the weapon of honour. One of the evils that is oppressing this nation is the failure of a large number of men to work: many people unfortunately cannot find employment.

Every able-bodied man should have "a mind to work."

The locomotive that runs light is more likely to jump the track than the one that is pulling a load. If more of the young men and women in this country were married there would be fewer social and industrial disturbances. Long engagements, as a rule, are not good. There are too many men running light in this world. More personal responsibility is needed. Henry Ward Beecher said that the darkest hour in a young man's

life was when he sat down and planned and devised how to make a living without work. Without mental or physical labour an honest living cannot be made.

When Erskine, the great British advocate, was addressing a jury—the first time, by the way, that he had made an address in a court of law—he said that he must succeed for he felt that his wife and children were tugging at his coat tails.

Jesus said: "And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant; even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many." To give His life for a ransom for many—that was the grandest service ever beheld in the universe of God.

We read in the New Testament the profound truth that God permitted His Only Begotten Son, the Being who created the world, to work in a carpenter shop at the carpenter's bench. I think as I read the Saviour's words "Take my yoke upon you and learn of me . . . for my yoke is easy, and my burden is light," that He, the Divine Son of God, made yokes in that workshop for beasts of burden. The yokes were so well made that they made no sore places. The man who wears the yoke of Christ has no sore spots on him, for in the wearing of that yoke there is perfect liberty and joy. He that would be great let him be the servant of his fellow creatures and minister to their needs.

Once upon a time, as the story goes, two men owned a field jointly, and side by side they planted, they watered, and they shared the crops share and share alike. One of these men had seven sons. Zimri lived by himself. One night when the crops were harvested, Zimri said, "I am alone, and my brother has seven sons; it is not pleasing in the sight of God that I should have as much as he." So he went forth from the field and took one-third of his sheaves and placed them with Abram's sheaves. Abram awoke and he thought of Zimri, and said he: "Here am I, surrounded by my sons, and Zimri is alone. At the end of the day's labour he goes to a cold, lonely home. I am going to give him one-third of my sheaves." He did so. The next morning both were astonished to find when they arose that they had not lost anything by giving to each other.

The next night Zimri went into the field and took a third of his sheaves to Abram's pile and placed them there and then he hid. He saw Abram coming out. And now the words of the poet:

Then Abram came down softly from his home  
And looked to the left and right, went on,  
Took from his ample store a generous third,  
And laid it on his brother Zimri's pile.  
Then Zimri rose, and caught him in his arms,  
And wept upon his neck, and kissed his cheek;  
And Abram saw the whole, and could not speak;  
Neither could Zimri, for their hearts were full.

"He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord," for "when ye are in the service of your fellow beings ye are only in the service of your God." May this heavenly duty shine in our hearts with a broad and glowing light.

## "THE PROMISE IS UNTO YOU"

*By Elder Archibald F. Bennett*



**T**HERE are many scenes of the war now happily fading from memory. But even war may leave its bright remembrances of true manhood and comradeship, some undying evidences of the watchcare and goodness of God, which justify the rehearsal of incidents of those cloudy and dark days.

War came to Canada when it came to England, on August 4, 1914. Canadian volunteers formed into contingents and soon took their place in the trenches beside troops from the Mother Country.

In Alberta was organized the 13th Canadian Mounted Rifles; and "C" Squadron of this regiment was made up largely of Mormon boys of American birth. They were sons mostly of parents who had settled in Canada in obedience to a call from the President of the Church. Living there, they felt an obligation to assist the country of their adoption in its day of need.

At a Sunday service held in the town of Taber, Alberta, on March 26, 1916, Major Hugh B. Brown, then commanding "C" Squadron of the 13th, made a ringing call for recruits. Nine boys responded, ranging in age from eighteen to twenty-one. We had grown up together in the priesthood quorums, the Sunday School and the M.I.A.; we had joined together in the fun of the dance and had competed in friendly contests of sport.

Just before we left home, Elder Samuel J. Layton was called to address the sacrament meeting. He had spoken out a few minutes when the Spirit of the Lord rested upon him. Under that prompting he promised this group of nine boys that if we did nothing while away of which our mothers would be ashamed we would all live to return after the war was over.

A few months later eight of us were in England; (one of the group had been detained in Canada); and in the midst of the alluring temptations and lax moral standards of camp life we grew more closely together. In our tent at night we discussed the folks at home and the home teachings. We determined to try to observe those teachings more than we had before enlisting, and to prove worthy representatives of our loved ones. Regularly at night we knelt in a group in our tent and prayed God to assist us.

When granted leave, we sought out our conference headquarters in London. There we were welcomed with true hospitality by President James Gunn McKay and his missionaries.

He even invited us to assist in street meetings and other Church gatherings.

I was appointed by him to attend a meeting of the South London Branch. I remember relating some of the testimonies gained in the army. When President McKay spoke, the Spirit of the Lord rested mightily upon him. He said how impressed he was with the story of our holding "family prayers." Then he told of the two thousand sons of the people of Ammon who had been taught by their mothers "that there was a just God; and whosoever did not doubt, that they should be preserved by his marvellous power." Turning to me, he said slowly and impressively:

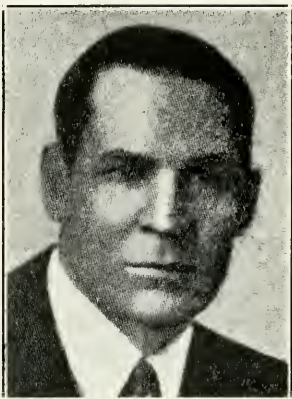
"I promise you boys, in the name of the Lord, that if you will continue faithful to the commandments of the Lord, and avoid the vices and sins of the world, and keep the Word of Wisdom, *you will all come back and be preserved to fulfil a life's work.*"

I copy this promise from a letter now in my possession, which I wrote home to my mother immediately after the meeting.

We determined, in our little group of eight, that this was a reward worth the seeking. But as I look back I wonder at the temptations that came to us. Our best friends persistently offered us tobacco. "No use refusing," they told us, "when you're out in the trenches in France, standing all night up to your waist in icy mud, you'll be glad of a little smoke or a little rum to warm you up." "Oh, you won't drink tea! Wait till you've marched all day with nothing to eat, and when you go for your rations at night there's nothing but tea issued! Wait till you're out wounded in No Man's Land, perishing from thirst, and you see a shell hole,

and you crawl over to drink some of the water that has seeped into it—and you find a corpse lying there! You'll be glad of a little boiled tea, won't you?"

"What if you're about to go over the top, and you need something to brace you up—I guess you'll take your share of the rum all right." "There's no need to be squeamish about it; you'll have to give in sooner or later"; "it's absolutely impossible to get along out there without them; you might as well give in now and enjoy them."



**Archibald F. Bennett**

Out of the not-too-distant past comes this tale of the great War. The story of eight Latter-day Saint boys who served under His Majesty's colours as members of the Canadian Army, and how the promise of their safe return was fulfilled to the utmost, furnishes a thrilling and faith-promoting narrative.

A native of Canada, Elder Bennett is at present secretary and librarian of the Utah Genealogical Society.

We could not argue down our friendly tempters. They must know for some of them had been in France for months. But the Lord had promised through His servants—had He asked something of us that was physically impossible?

I shall always think it a blessing that we came in our reading of the Book of Mormon to the story of Lehi, who requested his sons to go to Jerusalem for the sacred plates. The older sons refused, saying the thing he asked of them was an utter impossibility. But Nephi said:

"I will go and do the things which the Lord hath commanded, for I know that the Lord giveth no commandments unto the children of men, save he shall prepare a way for them that they may accomplish the thing which he commandeth them."

One by one, or in groups of two or three, our group of eight went to France. There came times when we marched many miles, and when, foot-sore and famished, we seized our mess tins and rushed to the camp-fire, only to find that nothing but tea was given that night. A few experiences like that and we learned to lay something by for lean days in the hour of "plenty." We took our turn in the trenches and crawled over No Man's Land; and we traded our rations of rum and tea and cigarettes for luxuries like jam and other foods that nourished. All of us had our individual experiences. Once, in hospital with the flu and some complications, I was puzzled. "At this stage of your sickness," the attendants explained, "we serve you nothing but tea." "But I don't drink tea," I said. "Can't you get me some milk?" "It has never been done, but we'll try." So I was served milk instead of tea.

In November, 1917, came the charge of our squadron at Cambrai. Two of the eight took part. My horse went down as we crossed, swords drawn, over a frail bridge. Somehow I managed to fall free of my horse as he rolled over into the water, carrying the whole side of the bridge with him. I lost my sword in the water, but managed to strike the water a glancing blow, so that I did not sink, despite my heavy load, and managed to swim out. The troops passed before I could drag out my almost drowning horse, and all the while a German sniper made things intensely lively for me. A straggler came limping back, "Where's 'B' Squadron?" I asked. "Gone!" he said, "Surrounded and cut to pieces!" "Poor old 'B' Squadron!" I heard someone say.

Drenched and shivering, I waited through that long night. About nine o'clock some twenty comrades fought their way through and escaped to our lines. Near 2 a.m., ten more straggled through. That was all! Leslie Bigelow, one of the

*(Continued on Page 124)*





## TOO OLD AT SEVENTY-FIVE?

By Elder Joseph W. Darling.

**A** FINE, drizzling rain was falling as I wended my way down a street in Belfast. The scene was hardly conducive to good spirits, but the feeling of depression was soon dispelled when I arrived at the home of Brothers John Glover and John Short and received a hearty welcome from these two old friends.

"We're always glad to welcome an elder of the Church," said Brother Short as he welcomed me. "John and I have been together now for the past seven years, and we don't have a lot of company, but we have the Gospel to comfort us."

The story of their conversion is an interesting one. Seventeen years ago a Mormon missionary called at the door of Brother Short's home and handed his wife a copy of Parley P. Pratt's *Voice of Warning*. He called several times on later occasions, and once left a Book of Mormon. "I compared it with the Bible and knew it was true," Brother Short told me.

Not until about 18 months ago did Brother Short meet another missionary when Elder Keith M. Macfarlane came tracting to his door, just as did the first elder 16 years ago. "I received him gladly," Brother Short remarked. "I had known all these years that the message I had received was nothing but the truth. And to cut a long story short, Brother Glover and I were both baptized the day after Christmas in 1935. Yes, it was mighty cold for two old men. Then I was just a month from 75."

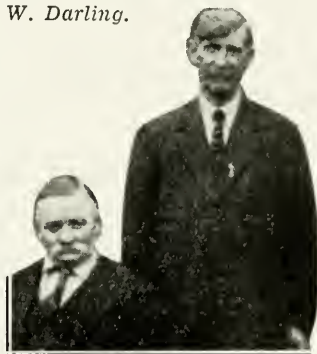
It would be difficult to find a better example of two who follow the Word of Wisdom. These are Brother Short's own words: "You know, the day I was baptized I came home and threw my pipe in the fire, and haven't smoked since!" He had smoked since he was ten years old but to me he picturesquely described his abstinence, "I never thinks on it now."

"It was a stronger hand than yours that helped you this time," broke in Brother Glover.

"Aye, it was that," Brother Short answered.

The visit with these two brothers had given me an outlook of renewed zeal and hope. Brother Short's parting words still rang in my ears. "We're just beginning life, now that we have the wonderful Gospel that teaches us such things as the Word of Wisdom."

Too old at seventy-five?



Brother Short, seated,  
Brother Glover, standing

## THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1937

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### EDITORIAL

#### A HEALTHIER NATION

Two million pounds will shortly be expended by the Government in instituting a campaign to make Britain physically fit, recent press reports have stated. In addition, sums amounting to £150,000 a year will be provided by the Government for working expenses.

To accomplish the purpose of the fund, all kinds of sport, games, physical training and camping will be promoted. A corps of well-known British athletes will have charge of administering the programme.

The movement is indeed a commendable one. It is doubtful if a better way to spend a similar amount could be found. The physical welfare of a people indeed means much to their happiness and well-being. A nation must keep itself physically up to par if it hopes to keep on a par with nations in other respects.

Admirable as Britain's physical fitness programme promises to be, yet to Latter-day Saints it lacks a vital "something" which would make it complete. That "something" not only would make it complete but also add materially to its success and to the beneficial effects it would bring to the people of this land.

Briefly, that "something" may be defined as the principles of the Latter-day Saint Word of Wisdom, which was divinely revealed to the Prophet Joseph Smith 104 years ago, on February 27, 1833. Abstinence from tobacco, alcohol, tea and coffee and the excessive use of meats, as well as moderation in all things are the teachings of this code of health, which faithful members have followed for more than a century.

When the Lord revealed the Word of Wisdom to the saints, through His latter-day prophet, Joseph Smith, He gave them His promise along with it, that those who obeyed its teachings would "find wisdom and great treasures of knowledge, even hidden treasures." He also promised them that they "shall run and not be weary, and shall walk and not faint." In conclusion, the revelation states:

**Worth-while  
Programme**

**The Word  
of Wisdom**

"And I the Lord, give unto them a promise, that the destroying angel shall pass by them, as the children of Israel, and not slay them." These promises, together with the Lord's actual counsel on the use of tobacco, liquor, tea and coffee are contained in the Doctrine and Covenants, a book of latter day revelation, which is one of the four "Standard Works" of the Church. The others are the Bible, Book of Mormon, and Pearl of Great Price. The latter two books were also revealed in this dispensation through Joseph Smith.

The Word of Wisdom has borne fruit of a tangible nature for its adherents. That it contributes to the health, happiness, and longevity of its followers is shown by a comparison of statistics compiled by the League of Nations. According to these figures the death rate among the populations of 20 countries of the world is 14 per thousand. Among Latter-day Saints it is slightly more than half that amount, or 7.5 per thousand. The average number of deaths from tuberculosis in six of the leading nations of the earth is 120 to every hundred thousand, while only nine members of the Church out of a similar number died from the effects of the "White Plague."

There are statistics regarding many other of the most prevalent of human ailments, cancer, diseases of the nervous, digestive, respiratory, and circulatory systems, all of which point to the fact that those who follow the Lord's law of health enjoy the blessings which He has promised to those obeying it.

If part of the £2,000,000 fund could be expended in an educational programme aimed toward acquainting the citizens of the country with the advantages of the proper use of foods, those which are the most nourishing and healthful for the body, it would most certainly be money well spent and add to the beneficial results of the physical fitness programme.

More important, too, would be a campaign directed against the smoking and drinking evils which are so widespread and undermining in their effects. If the youth of the nation could be made more aware of the harmful poisons that are contained in tobacco and alcohol, if they could be made to see the fallacies and misleading statements contained in the glib advertisements such as "Beer is best," and "Cigarettes do not affect your wind," then would the results of a physical fitness programme be more manifest.

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." (1 Corinthians 3: 16-17)

Latter-day Saints accept this teaching at its face value, and strive at all times to make their bodies more worthy of the Spirit of God dwelling therein by obedience to His laws of health, both spiritual and physical.

In all probability some of the Government Health fund will eventually be expended for the purpose advocated herein. If so, then many thousands more will realize the promise, that they "shall run and not be weary and shall walk and not faint."—PARRY D. SORENSEN.

**Tangible Results**

**Tobacco and Liquor Evil**

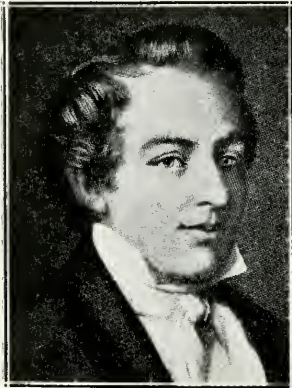
## ETERNAL LAWS OF HEALTH

*By Elder A. Z. Richards, Jr.*

**A**FTER the Church was organized in the small town of Fayette, New York, on April 6, 1830, in conformity with a command from God the Prophet Joseph Smith and his brethren had no time to call leisure. They were busily engaged in spreading the message of the Gospel. Public meetings were held and the Latter-day message of God was preached. Many investigators obtained an irresistible testimony of the truth and applied for baptism.

At the meetings of the Latter-day Saints who were rapidly increasing in number, the Sacrament of the Lord's last supper was administered in accordance with the instructions to their leader. It was on the occasion of one of these first meetings that the revelation known as Section 27 of the Doctrine and Covenants was given.

In early August, two months after the organization in Fayette, a meeting was to be held in Harmony, Pennsylvania, and several baptized persons were to be confirmed members of the Church. In preparing to administer the Sacrament, Joseph Smith set out to obtain some wine for the purpose. He had not gone far before he was stopped by a heavenly messenger who instructed him, in part, as follows:



Joseph Smith

Behold, I say unto you, that it mattereth not what ye shall eat or what ye shall drink when ye partake of the sacrament, if it so be that ye do it with an eye single to my glory—remembering unto the Father my body which was laid down for you, and my blood which was shed for the remission of your sins.

Wherefore, a commandment I give unto you, that you shall not purchase wine neither strong drink of your enemies;

Wherefore, you shall partake of none except it is made new among you; yea, in this my Father's kingdom which shall be built up on the earth. D. and C. 27: 2-4

It had always been believed that wine was necessary for communion but this revelation informed the Church differently. In fact, since that time pure water has generally been used as the Sacramental drink among the Latter-day Saints.

This revelation is also significant because it seems to have prepared the way for the Word of Wisdom, which was given to the Saints about three years later. Why they should neither purchase wine nor strong drink was only vaguely understood by many at that time, because few really knew that strong drinks were harmful to the body and therefore that drinking them was contrary to the pleasure of God.

It was more than a hundred years ago, on February 27, 1833, that the Lord gave to the Church through the Prophet Joseph Smith Section 89 of the Doctrine and Covenants. Known more generally as the Word of Wisdom, this revelation has since

been preached in practically every land as a remedy for all the ills of mankind, and as a principle which would alleviate many of the world's great problems if only men would accept God's word and then humbly strive to live it. Such is the nature of the promise which has been given unto all Saints who obey it.

The Word of Wisdom was sent as a "greeting; not by commandment or restraint, but as wisdom, showing forth the order and the will of God in the temporal salvation of all" in the last days. Some of the remarkable pronouncements contained in Section 89 of the Doctrine and Covenants are as follows:

#### Evils and Designs

Following are excerpts from a letter signed by the vice-president of the American Tobacco Company and circulated to agents throughout the United States, recently:

"Cigarettes consumed this year will amount to in excess of the enormous total of 148,200,000,000. It is encouraging and indicates that the figure of 200,000,000,000 a year for cigarette consumption in the United States is not at all out of line. . . . We face the future with increasing confidence, and as one of the ways in which we feel that we can lend in the future additional energy and additional work to the reaching of this enormous volume of 200 billion or more, we have decided to increase our *sales department* by more than 50 per cent in man power. This increase in salesmen will require closer supervision and will necessitate certain changes in our organization."

More than a hundred years ago the Word of Wisdom warned us "in consequence of evils and designs which do and will exist in the hearts of conspiring men in the last days."

#### Reason for the Revelation—

"Behold, verily, thus saith the Lord unto you: In consequence of evils and designs which do and will exist in the hearts of conspiring men in the last days, I have warned you, and forewarn you, by giving unto you this word of wisdom by revelation."

The brewers of intoxicating beverages, the owners of the tobacco trusts who spend such immense sums for advertising and probably even the governments which once opposed the traffic but now encourage it because of the massive revenue which it brings, have fulfilled the prophecy. Truly men have conspired against humanity by manufacturing that which is detrimental to the body and which it does not need, just because large profits are realized. There are many men who work in these industries, and yet do not indulge in their own product, because they know of its effect.

*Alcoholic Drinks*—"That in as much as any man drinketh wine or strong drink among you, behold it is not good, neither meet in the sight of

your Father." Strong drinks are not for the stomach, but for the washing of your bodies.

*Tobacco*—"And, again, tobacco is not for the body . . . and is not good for man, but is an herb for bruises and all sick cattle, to be used with judgment and skill."

*Hot Drinks*—"And again, hot drinks are not for the body."

*Fruits and Vegetables*—"And again, verily I say unto you, all wholesome herbs God hath ordained for the constitution, nature, and use of man. Every herb in the season thereof, and every fruit in the season thereof; all these to be used with prudence and thanksgiving."

*Meat*—"Yea, flesh also of beasts and of the fowls of the air,

I, the Lord, have ordained for the use of man with thanksgiving; nevertheless they are to be used sparingly; and it is pleasing unto me that they should not be used only in times of winter, or of cold, or famine."

*Grains*—"All grain is ordained for the use of man . . . . Nevertheless, wheat for man, and corn for the ox, and oats for the horse, and rye for the fowls and for swine, and for all beasts of the field, and barley for all useful animals, and for mild drinks, as also other grain."

*Rewards and Promises*—"And all saints who remember to keep and do these sayings, walking in obedience to the commandments, shall receive health . . . and shall find wisdom and great treasures of knowledge, even hidden treasures; and shall run and not be weary, and shall walk and not faint. And I, the Lord, give unto them a promise, that the destroying angel shall pass by them, as the children of Israel, and not slay them. Amen."

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### "THE PROMISE IS UNTO YOU"

*(Concluded from Page 118)*

group to whom the promise was made, was among the lost! He had surely lived his religion and kept the Word of Wisdom. Had the Lord's promise failed?

In my Book of Remembrance I have a card, worn and faded, dated June 11, 1918, and postmarked Friedrichsfeld bei Wesel. It came from a prisoner of a war camp there. Along with it I preserve a picture of my friend Leslie in a prisoner's uniform, as I saw him in London the first Christmas after the Armistice. He had seen many trying days and had suffered untold privations, but he came back alive and well.

I keep that little card and the photo, not alone because they remind me of the preservation of a friend, but because they are the symbols of a victory—an undying testimony to me that, if we do our part, the word of the Lord does not fail!

Others of the group have doubtless recorded their own experiences. Lowell Duncombe was with the regiment ordered to charge, on their horses in full daylight, a wood bristling with machine guns. The Colonel objected to the order, saying it was madness to make that charge and meant certain death to the men. The Brigadier-General shouted peremptorily: "Charge that wood! I don't care whether a damn one of them comes back!" They charged, and Sir Phillip Gibbs has written of what he termed the foolhardy venture, which in a few minutes left every horse dead upon the field. Fortunately most of the men escaped, and Lowell was among those who, when his horse went down, crawled into a trench and escaped. Another soldier rode my horse into action that day—I was still in the hospital—and the best horse I ever had there was killed.

In the spring of 1918 we charged afoot up the hillside. Before starting we threw off our overcoats in a pile. Just then a shell struck the pile and changed the coats into carpet rags. "Now, boys," the Captain explained in even tones, "we are to go up the hill in waves. The first wave will probably get a

good dressing down. You are to be the first wave. But, remember, there are many more to follow and support you."

The order was given and we stepped out into the open. A furious hail of bullets shrieked over and about us. We ran a few steps, dropped down for a minute, ran again, and so on until we reached the brow of the hill. Lee McOmber was shot through the ankle on the way up the slope. Charlie Tufts and I carried a box of machine gun ammunition between us. A shell struck a bank of earth on a level with our heads and a few yards in front of us. As it exploded, however, the particles were thrown upwards, and we escaped. Just beyond we came to a sunken road. Another shell struck right between our feet and exploded. We were knocked down and somewhat dazed; he had a few holes cut in his tunic; several on either side of us were stricken down or severely wounded; but neither of us was scratched!

I am told that as he ran forward to take the place of a machine gunner who had been killed, another shell struck between his legs, but failed to explode. As I returned from carrying wounded to the dressing station, I fell in with some British troops coming to our support. The Major in command of the party was struck on the knee and it was shattered. With perfect self control, in the midst of what must have been excruciating pain, he explained every detail of the plan we were to follow, before he would leave. We started through the wood single file. I was third in line. Shells were tearing through the trees and snapping them off like matchwood. Bullets were cracking on all sides of us, and an aeroplane added to the interest by firing upon us from overhead. A bullet struck and the first man crumpled; a second and the next man groaned and fell stark. It was my turn next. I am thankful that it never came.

The boys of the troop who had remained back of the line with our horses prepared a sumptuous meal for us. "They will be good and hungry after this fight," they told themselves, "for they haven't had any rations for nearly two days. So we'll surprise them."

Only six of us came back to eat that meal, and for once there was plenty.

Eight months more of active service followed. In a cavalry charge at Le Cateau, Charlie Tufts received a shrapnel wound on the hand and was in hospital for a month or so. The Armistice found us in Belgium, in hot pursuit of the retreating enemy. Every one of the eight had had narrow escapes; two had been wounded, and one had been a prisoner of war for a year; but all of them came back home alive and well and all are alive to-day, spared for their life's mission. The promise of the Lord was fulfilled.

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#### THE GREATEST POEM

If a jury of persons well instructed in literature were impanelled to pronounce upon the question what is the greatest poem in the world's great literature, while on such a question unanimity would be impossible, yet I believe a large majority would give their verdict in favour of the *Book of Job*.—Professor Moulton, in the *Modern Reader's Bible*

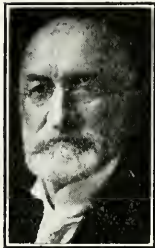
## NEWS OF THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD

**PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT** plans to visit Great Britain during the coming summer, he stated at

the Pasadena Stake conference in California recently. His plans call for visiting this country during the month of July, to observe the hundredth anniversary of the Gospel's coming to Britain on July 23rd, 1837

It was first preached in Preston.

President Grant's visit would be the first time



**President Grant**  
*Plans visit.*

the President of the Church has visited Britain since 1910, when President Joseph F. Smith, in company with Elder Charles W. Nibley, then Presiding Bishop of the Church, visited in England, speaking in London and Liverpool. President Grant presided over the European Mission for three years (1904-06) when the headquarters of the Mission were in Liverpool.

**WRITTEN** by Elder Robert S. Stevens, member of the Millennial Chorus, a 2,500 word article, telling the story of the Chorus's activity since its organization last June,

appears in the February issue of the *Improvement Era*, just received in Britain. Included in the article is a large picture of the Chorus, individual pictures of Elder Stevens and Mr. Alvin M. Owsley, United States Minister to the Free State, whom the chorus members met and sang before last autumn, and a view of the Market Square in Preston, where the chorus sang and held open-air meetings during their month's stay in that city last summer.

**A RARE** copy of the Book of Mormon, published in 1837, has recently found its way into the library of Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. It was given to the University by Sister Mercy Lewis, of Kamas, Utah, and is one of the second editions of the Book. The first edition was published in 1830 in Palmyra, New York, shortly after the Prophet Joseph Smith had finished translating it, by the aid of Divine inspiration from, the Golden Plates which had been revealed to him by the Angel Moroni. The volume presented to the University library was originally owned by Elder Garret L. Groesbeck, and was taken from Nauvoo, Illinois, across Iowa, and eventually ended up in Utah, where it has been a precious family heirloom ever since.

### BRISTOL DISTRICT CONFERENCE

President Joseph J. Cannon was principal speaker at the Bristol District Spring conference sessions, held Sunday, February 21, in Hannah More Hall, Bristol.

District President Herbert S. Millard conducted all of the meetings. President Cannon and Supervising Elder William R. Firmage were speakers at the evening session.

Sister Lucy Mary Battle, Elder Ferrell K. Walker, President Millard and President Cannon spoke at the afternoon meeting and Brothers Henry E. Neal, Leslie Soper, Elder J. Glen Burdett and President Cannon were speakers at the morning session of the conference. The Singing Mothers and Daughters of the District furnished musical numbers for the morning and afternoon meetings.

Birmingham District conference will convene in Handsworth Branch Chapel, 23 Booth Street, Handsworth, Birmingham, at 11 a.m. and 2.30 and 6.30 p.m. Sunday, February 28.



## OF CURRENT INTEREST

**DIRECTORS** of Aston Villa, famous Birmingham football club, suspended George Cummings, Scots international £8,000 left back and Harry Morton, goalkeeper, from the Villa Team on February 19th. Mr. Fred Normansell, chairman of Aston Villa, stated: "We consider it in the best interest of the game that Morton and Cummings should be immediately suspended. We realise that it is impossible to keep players on a chain all the time, even when in training, but this kind of thing cannot be tolerated." The two players were accused of drinking liquor.

**SHIPPING** companies estimate that 90,000 Empire visitors will come to London for the Coronation, which promises to be more of an Empire celebration than ever. Empire visitors will pay about £5,750,000 for their passages. From Australia alone 18,000 people are expected; they will pay £2,700,000 in fares. The average Empire visitor will spend about £100 here. That will put £9,000,000 into the pockets of Britain's traders and hostellers. These calculations leave out Coronation visitors from America and the Continent. No one has estimated yet how many are coming—or how much they will spend.

**COMPARISON** between France's newest Air Force 'planes and those promised to Britain's R.A.F. shows that Britain will possess the fastest in Europe. Experts consider the new French 'planes faster than Soviet or German types. The French fighters average top speed of 234 m.p.h. Britain already has in service 255 m.p.h. fighters; new ones will do well over 300. France's new day bombers average 221 m.p.h.; Britain's nearly 300.

**INDIA** is to-day faced with a population problem the precise reverse of that which is puzzling Europe. The birth rate which already is 33.7 per 1,000, instead of decreasing, displays signs of growing to yet higher levels among its teeming millions. Statistics have

just been issued by the Public Health Commissioner for all India. These show that in an area of 890,000 square miles, the population stands at nearly 276,000,000 as against a little over 252,000,000 in 1931. Births during a 12-month period numbered nearly 9,252,000 and deaths about 6,750,000, the rates per 1,000 being 34 and 25 respectively. The density of population is 310 people per square mile.

**TELEPHONE** subscribers in London, who want a number that can be remembered easily by friends, need merely ask the telephone service and they fit him up with the best one available. How the numbers are tailor-made at special request is revealed by the Post Office in a recent booklet. The subscriber may want a number like 1000, or maybe 1234. If his selection is available he gets it, otherwise the Post Office gives him the nearest equivalent, perhaps 4321. "We always meet people's wishes as far as possible" an official said. There is little fear that all the plums will have fallen, when you want your special number, because only about a two-hundredth part of new subscribers take advantage of this service at present. Perhaps you'd like to have a number that tells your acquaintances when you usually retire—say 1130. Then they would not merely remember your number but, maybe, take a hint as well.

**ARGYLLSHIRE**, Scotland, criminal statistics show it to be one of the best behaved areas in Britain. Its most peaceful districts are the inner Hebridean Islands. The policeman of Tiree and Coll, who has 2,000 people on his beat, has had only two minor offences in the past year, and his cells have never been occupied. The island of Colonsay has had only one offence reported in thirty years.

**FROM ST. NAZAIRE**, a recent press dispatch stated that the new ship being built to replace *Atlantique*, which was gutted by fire in the English Channel, will be named after Louis Pasteur.

## FROM THE MISSION FIELD

**BIRMINGHAM**—A social was sponsored by Sparkbrook Branch M Men on Saturday, February 13th, under the direction of Brothers William St. John Yates and Albert Collins. Sisters of the Branch prepared refreshments and a variety programme was presented by the M Men. More than forty attended the social.

**IRISH**—At baptismal services conducted by Supervising Elder Joseph W. Darling in Belfast Branch Hall, 122, Upper North Street, Belfast, Sunday, February 14th, the following were baptized and confirmed: Robert Dougherty was baptized by Elder Darling and confirmed by Brother Joseph Ditty; Joseph Spinks Flaherty was baptized by Elder Darling and confirmed by Elder Clarence E. Silver; Agnes Curtis was baptized by Elder Austin M. Scott and confirmed by Elder Norman E. Weston.

An unusual feature of the Investigator's Class held regularly in Belfast Branch hall was ice cream made by the Irish District missionaries and served by them to the group on Thursday evening, February 11th.

**LIVERPOOL**—Brother John Espley conducted the games and musical numbers as chairman of the programme committee at the social gathering, Saturday, February 13th, in the home of Brother and Sister J. E. Owens, in Rosegrove, Burnley. Supper was served.

**MANCHESTER**—More than 60 members and friends attended the "cobweb" social in Oldham Branch hall, Saturday, February 13th, in aid of the Branch building fund. A special feature on the programme was the unravelling of a cobweb. At the end of each string was a prize. Sisters Mary Ellen Wynn and Annie P. Heaton were in charge of the entertainment.

A Birthday Social was sponsored by Hyde Branch on Saturday, February 13th. A short programme was presented and refreshments were

served. On Tuesday, February 16th, Brother and Sister Thomas H. Boothroyd entertained members of Hyde Branch M.I.A. at their home.

**NOTTINGHAM** — Mansfield Branch held a Relief Society social on Saturday, February 13th. More than 60 members and friends attended including Sisters Gertrude Horlacher and Harriet Chamberlain, lady missionaries. Sister Edith Limb conducted a vocal concert programme. Sisters May Cook, Hilda Day, Dolly Blythe, and Mary Brown also assisted during the evening. The Presidency of the Branch Relief Society were highly commended by all for the fine evening.

Supervising Elder Edwin H. Lauber and Elder H. Hooper Mortensen gave illustrated lectures in Mansfield Branch hall on Wednesday evenings, February 10th and 17th. The lecture, "Landmarks of Church History," to be given Wednesday, February 24th, will conclude the series. On Friday, February 19th, Elder Lauber delivered the illustrated lecture "Down Pioneer Trails" before the Nottingham Toc H Club. All who attended enjoyed both the lecture and the discussion period which followed.

**SHEFFIELD**—On Saturday, February 13th, Miss Betty Danvers with the "Lodestar Concert Troupe," including soloists and other artists, presented a concert for members of Sheffield Branch. More than 80 attended the concert which was in charge of Brother George A. Stubbs, a member of the Branch building fund committee.

**BRISTOL**—Sister Emily Bowen conducted the Sunday School social held in Bristol Branch Saturday, February 13th. Games were under the direction of Branch President William F. Collins, and a solo from "The Desert Song" was sung by Brother Dennis Collins. Refreshments were served and Supervising Elder William R. Firmage acted as master of ceremonies.

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